

1 **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

2 1. A captive cover for a hypodermic needle of an intravenous (IV) tube
3 assembly with multiple elements including a container needle, an upper tube, a
4 lower tube and a flow control apparatus, the captive cover comprising an
5 elongated body adapted to be attached longitudinally to an element of the IV
6 tube assembly, wherein

7 the elongated body is hollow and has

8 an outside surface

9 a proximal opening tapered inward;

10 a closed distal end;

11 a chamber formed longitudinally in the elongated body between
12 the proximal opening and the closed distal end, communicates with the tapered
13 proximal opening and tapers slightly toward the closed distal end; and

14 at least one resilient locking tab formed in the outside surface

15 near the proximal opening and protrudes into the chamber toward the distal end.

16 2. The captive cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein the elongated body
17 has one locking tab.

18 3. The captive cover as claimed in claim 1 further comprising at least
19 one connector formed integrally with and extending radially from the outside
20 surface of the elongated body to connect to an element of the IV tube assembly.

21 4. The captive cover as claimed in claim 3, wherein the captive cover has
22 two connectors formed integrally with and extending radially from respectively
23 the distal end and near the proximal opening of the elongated body.

24 5. The captive cover as claimed in claim 4, wherein each connector is a

1 C-shaped clip.